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E.O. 12958: DECL: 10/26/2016  
TAGS: [BA](#) [IR](#) [KNNP](#) [PARM](#) [PREL](#) [CTR](#) [REGION](#)  
SUBJECT: IRAN SIGNALS UNEASE WITH BAHRAIN'S PARTICIPATION  
IN PSI

Classified By: Ambassador William T. Monroe for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d)

(C) During a meeting on various subjects with Ministry of Foreign Affairs Assistant Under Secretary for Coordination and Follow-up Shaikh Abdul-Aziz Al Khalifa October 26, DCM raised the issue of the upcoming coalition PSI exercise October 29-30 noting Bahrain's participation and the Ambassador's plan to address the media at its conclusion. Shaikh Abdul-Aziz informed the DCM that Bahrain's Ambassador in Tehran had been summoned October 25 to the Iranian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and questioned about the exercise taking place in Gulf waters. Bahrain's Ambassador reported back that the Iranians said this was a sensitive issue and stated their great discomfort with the exercise and Bahrain's participation. Shaikh Abdul-Aziz assured the DCM that Bahrain would "stand our ground" and will go forward with their participation but emphasized "We don't want any obvious provocation. They have heard your message."

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